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Ag Digest

Note to Survey Respondents: Results of many surveys we conduct throughout the year are included in this report! Most survey results are not published individually. **Thank you** for taking the time to complete our surveys!

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The Keystone Ag Digest may be found on the Internet at the following address:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Pennsylvania/Publications/Keystone_Ag_Digest/index.asp

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Pennsylvania during June 2006 totaled 899 million pounds, 0.1 percent above last June's production of 898 million pounds. The number of milk cows in the state during the month averaged 555,000 head, down 1,000 head from May, and 8,000 less than June 2005. Production per cow averaged 1,620 pounds in June, 80 pounds less than May's production per cow of 1,700 pounds and 25 pounds more than June 2005.

Milk production in the 23 states surveyed during June 2006 totaled 14 billion pounds, up 1.9 percent from June 2005. May revised production, at 14.7 billion pounds, was up 2.7 percent from May 2005. The May revision represented a decrease of 14 million pounds or 0.1 million percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major states averaged 1,695 pounds for June, 5 pounds above June 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major states was 8.27 million head, 128,000 head more than June 2005, and 9,000 head more than May 2006.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

United States' butter production was 129 million pounds, 7.3 percent above May 2005 and 1 percent above April 2006. Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 807 million pounds, 3.0 percent above May 2005 and 2.6 percent above April 2006. Italian type cheese production totaled 332 million pounds, 1.5 percent above May 2005 and 1.1 percent above April 2006. American type cheese production totaled 346 million pounds, 4.0 percent above May 2005 and 2.1 percent above April 2006. Frozen desserts (comparisons with May 2005): ice cream, regular (hard) -- 82.1million gallons, up 4.7 percent; ice cream, lowfat (total) -- 37.1 million gallons, up 12.1 percent; ice cream, nonfat (hard) -- 1.49 million gallons, down 14.1 percent; sherbet (hard) -- 4.77 million gallons, down 3.3 percent; frozen yogurt (total) -- 6.64 million gallons, up 6.4 percent.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Products	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2006
000 Lbs.			
PENNSYLVANIA			
Butter.....	6,872	7,163	6,950
Ice Cream.....	3,587	2,762	3,136
UNITED STATES			
Butter.....	120,715	128,457	129,468
Cheese:			
American Types.....	332,501	338,715	345,886
Swiss.....	25,622	25,369	26,524
Brick and Muenster.....	6,240	8,711	8,819
Cream and Neufchatel.....	51,230	49,695	55,601
Mozzarella.....	262,238	261,653	265,599
Other Italian.....	64,958	66,935	66,655
Total Italian Types.....	327,196	328,588	332,254
All Other.....	27,237	20,766	23,976
Total.....	783,943	786,477	807,148
NF Dry Milk, Human.....	124,329	129,225	131,799
Yogurt, Plain & Flavored.....	264,459	254,096	267,523
000 Gal.			
FROZEN PRODUCTS:			
Ice Cream, Hard.....	78,375	77,408	82,064
Ice Cream, Lowfat.....	33,123	32,054	37,139
Ice Cream, Nonfat.....	1,730	1,324	1,486
Sherbet, Hard.....	4,934	4,557	4,769
Frozen Yogurt, Total.....	6,239	5,960	6,638
MIX FOR PRODUCTS:			
Ice Cream Mix.....	44,652	43,553	46,537
Ice Cream Mix, Lowfat.....	19,558	18,447	21,444
Ice Cream Mix, Nonfat.....	1,115	831	910
Sherbet Mix.....	3,551	3,061	3,371
Yogurt Mix.....	3,859	3,612	4,023

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			23 States		
		Jun 2005	May 2006	Jun 2006	Jun 2005	May 2006	Jun 2006
Milk Cows.....	Thous.	563	556	555	8,138	8,257	8,266
Milk Per Cow.....	Lbs.	1,595	1,700	1,620	1,690	1,780	1,695
Milk Production.....	Mil. Lbs.	898	945	899	13,755	14,700	14,011

CROP FORECAST

Based on July 1, 2006 forecast for yield and production, the Keystone state's farmers expect to produce more oats, barley, and peaches this year, while production of winter wheat is expected to decline. Pennsylvania's 2006 planted potato acreage is down 500 acres from last year.

Oat acreage for grain, at 110,000, is unchanged from last year's harvested acres. The July 1, 2006 oat yield is forecast at 60 bushels per acre, 5 bushels per acre above the final yield of 2005. If realized, the resulting oat production of 6.60 million bushels will be up 9 percent from last year. Winter wheat acres to be harvested for grain are expected to total 150,000, up 5,000 acres from last year. The July 1, 2006 winter wheat yield forecast is set at 51.0 bushels per acre, which is unchanged from the June 1 projected yield, but 3 bushels per acre below last year's final yield. The resulting winter wheat production of 7.65 million bushels will be down 2 percent from last year's production of 7.83 million bushels. Barley acreage for grain at 48,000, is up 1,000 acres from 2005. Barley yield is expected to be 74.0 bushels per acre this year for an expected production of 3.552 million bushels. This production is up 5 percent from last year's production of 3.384 million bushels. Fall potatoes were planted on 11,000 acres this year, down 4 percent from last year. Harvest is expected from 10,800 acres, down 2 percent from a year ago.

At the United States level, oat production is forecast at 110 million bushels, 4 percent below last year's 115 million bushels. If realized, this would be the lowest oat production on record. The expected yield for oats, forecast at 57.9 bushels per acre, is down 5.1 bushels from 2005. Growers expect to harvest 1.91 million acres for grain, up 5 percent from last year. Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.28 billion bushels. This is up 1 percent from last month but 15 percent below 2005. The U.S. yield is forecast at 41.1 bushels per acre, up 0.6 bushels from last month but down 3.3 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain totals 31.1 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2006, but down 8 percent from last year. Barley production for 2006 is forecast at 190 million bushels, 10 percent below 2005 and the lowest production since 1936. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 63.4 bushels per acre, down 1.4 bushels from last year. Area for harvest, at 2.99 million acres, is down 9 percent from 2005 and the lowest since 1885.

For the United States, fall potatoes were planted on 990,500 acres this year, up 2 percent from last year but 5 percent below 2004. Harvest is expected from 974,400 acres, up 3 percent from 2005 but 5 percent below 2 years ago. This increase is due in part to low ending stocks and higher prices.

CROP PROSPECTS - JULY, 2006 WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Year	Pennsylvania				United States				Unit
		Acreage (000)		Production		Acreage (000)		Production		
		Planted	Harvested	Per Acre	(000)	Planted	Harvested	Per Acre	(000)	
Corn	2005	1,350	960 ¹	122.0	117,120	81,759	75,107 ¹	147.9	11,112,072	Bu.
	2006	1,350	940 ¹	²	²	79,366	72,091 ¹	²	²	Bu.
Sorghum.....	2005	11	4 ¹	50.0	200	6,454	5,736 ¹	68.7	393,893	Bu.
	2006	13	5 ¹	²	²	6,282	5,317 ¹	²	²	Bu.
Wheat, Winter.....	2005	150	145	54.0	7,830	40,433	33,794	44.4	1,499,129	Bu.
	2006	160	150	51.0	7,650	41,393	31,108	41.1	1,280,005	Bu.
Oats	2005	140	110	55.0	6,050	4,246	1,823	63.0	114,878	Bu.
	2006	135	110	60.0	6,600	4,312	1,907	57.9	110,322	Bu.
Barley	2005	55	47	72.0	3,384	3,875	3,269	64.8	211,896	Bu.
	2006	55	48	74.0	3,552	3,496	2,990	63.4	189,647	Bu.
Soybeans	2005	430	420	41.0	17,220	72,142	71,361	43.3	3,086,432	Bu.
	2006	460	450	²	²	74,930	73,935	²	²	Bu.
Hay, Dry All	2005	-	1,600	2.12	3,397	-	61,649	2.44	150,590	Ton
	2006	-	1,650	²	²	-	62,697	²	²	Ton
Hay, Dry Alfalfa	2005	-	510	2.60	1,326	-	22,389	3.38	75,771	Ton
	2006	-	520	²	²	-	22,407	²	²	Ton
Tobacco, All.....	2005	-	5.0	2,140	10,700	-	298.1	2,147	639,709	Lbs.
	2006	-	7.9	²	²	-	336.4	²	²	Lbs.
Potatoes, Fall	2005	11.5	11.0	250	2,750	968.6	949.5	401	381,026	Lbs.
	2006	11.0	10.8	³	³	990.5	974.4	³	³	Lbs.

¹ Harvested for grain, remainder of planted acres for silage and other uses. ² Not available until August. ³ Not available until November.

MINK PELT PRODUCTION

Pennsylvania mink pelt production in 2005 totaled 61,000 pelts, up 9 percent from 2004. Average prices for mink pelts produced in Pennsylvania are not available. Female mink bred to produce kits in 2006 totaled 15,200, up 1 percent from the previous year. Thirty-two percent of the females bred to produce kits are of the black.

United States' mink pelt production in 2005 totaled 2.63 million pelts, up 3 percent from 2004. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing state, produced 778,000 pelts. Utah the second largest producing state, produced 600,000 pelts.

Mink pelts produced during the 2005 crop year were valued at \$160 million dollars, up 33 percent from \$120 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2005 crop year was \$60.90, up from \$47.10 in 2004.

Female mink bred to produce kits in 2006 totaled 651,600, up 2 percent from the previous year. There were 277 mink farms producing pelts in 2005, down 6 percent from a year ago. Leading States were Utah with 70 farms, Wisconsin with 67 farms, and Minnesota with 24.

PROCESSING VEGETABLES

Crop	Area Planted			
	2004 Total	2005		2006 Contract Intentions
		Total	Contract	
Acres				
Pennsylvania				
Snap Beans	14,000	9,900	8,900	10,700
Sweet Corn	1,700	1,300	1,300	1,200
United States				
Snap Beans	210,010	216,930	213,330	195,190
Sweet Corn	412,700	421,610	421,010	401,100

VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Vegetable processors in Pennsylvania have contracted 10,700 acres of snap beans in 2006, up 20 percent from the 8,900 acres contracted in 2005. Sweet corn processors have contracted 1,200 acres, down 100 acres from the 1,300 acres contracted in 2005.

Pennsylvania's forecasts based on the 2006 July Fresh Market Vegetable Survey indicate an increase in harvested acreage for fresh market sweet corn. Fresh market sweet corn acres for harvest are forecast at 19,800, up 12 percent from last year's 17,700 acres.

2005 FRUIT PRODUCTION

Pennsylvania apple production was 515 million pounds, up 110 million pounds from 2004. Of this 515 million pounds, 510 million pounds were utilized. The average utilized yield per bearing acre was 23,400 pounds. The preliminary farm level value of the crop was \$50.9 million, up 26 percent from 2004. Pennsylvania ranked fourth in U.S. apple production behind Washington, New York, and Michigan. Washington produced 5.8 billion pounds, New York produced 1.04 billion pounds, and Michigan produced 780 million pounds.

Tart cherry production was 2.6 million pounds from 800 acres. The yield per bearing acre was 3,250 pounds, down from 3,750 pounds in 2004. The preliminary farm level value was \$819,000. Michigan, the top tart cherry producing state, harvested 208 million pounds.

Pennsylvania peach production was 26,600 tons from 4,500 acres in 2005. The average utilized yield per bearing acre was 5.91 tons per acre. The preliminary farm level value of the crop was \$19.0 million. Pennsylvania ranked fifth in peach production behind California, South Carolina, Georgia, and New Jersey. Pear production was 2,100 tons from 800 acres in 2005. The preliminary farm level value was \$1.3 million.

Pennsylvania grape growers produced 90,000 tons from 12,000 acres in 2005. The preliminary farm level value was \$19.6 million. There were 78,000 tons of Concords, 6,000 tons of Niagara, and 6,000 tons of other grapes crushed in 2005. Grapes processed for wine increased to 16,300 tons, up 23 percent from 2004. Pennsylvania ranked fifth in grape production behind California, Washington, New York, and Michigan.

2004-2005 FRUIT: UTILIZED PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Utilized Production				Value of Utilized Production			
	Pennsylvania		United States		Pennsylvania		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<i>Million Pounds</i>					<i>(000) Dollars</i>			
Apples	400.0	510.0	10,361.3	9,762.5	40,353.0	50,928.0	1,646,801.0	1,893,580.0
Tart Cherries	3.0	2.6	213.0	268.4	1,060.0	819.0	69,941.0	64,232.0
<i>Tons</i>								
Sweet Cherries ...	350.0	¹	279,160.0	243,570.0	1,043.0	¹	437,133.0	484,348.0
Pears	4,400.0	2,100.0	873,400.0	823,670.0	2,482.0	1,254.0	292,969.0	294,697.0
Peaches	22,700.0	26,600.0	1,229,800.0	1,145,100.0	16,114.0	19,011.0	461,624.0	511,268.0
Grapes	86,800.0	90,000.0	6,229,930.0	7,825,500.0	19,190.0	19,608.0	3,010,958.0	3,459,407.0

¹ Sweet cherries estimates discontinued in 2005.

FRUIT FORECAST

Based on July 1 conditions, Pennsylvania's peach production is forecast at 29,500 tons, up 11 percent from last year's production of 26,600 tons. Pennsylvania expects to produce 4.20 million pounds of tart cherries, 62 percent above 2005 and up 40 percent from 2004. The trees wintered well and favorable weather during pollination contributed to a very good set and fruit sizing.

Pennsylvania discontinued estimating sweet cherry production in 2005.

For the United States, peach production is estimated at 1.06 million tons, down 11 percent from 2005 and 19 percent below the 2004 crop. U.S. tart cherry production for 2006 is forecast at 256 million pounds, 5 percent below 2005 production but 20 percent above production in 2004. The U.S. sweet cherry crop is forecast at 268,400 tons, up 7 percent from 2005 but 5 percent below 2004.

JULY 1, 2006 FRUIT FORECASTS WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Year	Production	
		Pennsylvania	United States
		Tons	
Peaches	2004	23,000	1,307,110
	2005	26,600	1,184,550
	2006	29,500	1,058,300
Sweet Cherries	2004	400	283,060
	2005	1	251,170
	2006	1	268,400
		Million pounds	
Tart Cherries	2004	3.0	213.0
	2005	2.7	270.4
	2006	4.2	255.7

¹ Pennsylvania discontinued sweet cherry estimation in 2005.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, MAY 2006

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod	Million pounds	100.0	4,049.1
Cattle	1,000 head	71.8	3,038.7
	1,000 lbs. live	88,628	3,771,115
Calves	1,000 head	14.5	57.0
	1,000 lbs. live	6,324	21,578
Hogs	1,000 head	244.6	8,537.0
	1,000 lbs. live	57,895	2,316,699
Sheep & Lambs....	1,000 head	4.6	225.8
	1,000 lbs. live	452	32,516

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in Pennsylvania during May 2006 totaled 100.0 million pounds, up 5 percent from May 2005. Beef production, at 88.6 million pounds live weight, was up 2 percent from May 2005. Total head slaughtered was 71,800, up 1 percent. Live weight averaged 1,234 pounds, up 12 pounds from last year. Veal production was 6.3 million pounds live weight, up 21 percent from last year. Calf slaughter of 14,500 head was up 16 percent from last year. Average live weight increased 20 pounds to 436 pounds.

Pork production was 57.9 million pounds live weight, up 5 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 244,600, up 9 percent from May 2005. Average live weight decreased 8 pounds from last year to 237 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production during May 2006 was 452,000 pounds live weight, down 4 percent. The number slaughtered was 4,600, down 8 percent from last year. Average live weight increased 5 pounds to 99 pounds.

Nationally, commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in May 2006 totaled 4.05 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in May 2005. Compared with a year earlier beef production, dressed weight basis, at 2.30 billion pounds, was up 11 percent. Veal production totaled 13.1 million pounds, down 1 percent from May a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was up 10 percent from May 2005.

January-May red meat production was 19.1 billion pounds, up 5 percent from May 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

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